



THE YELLOWSTONE NEWS

DECEMBER 15, 2001

NEXT DEADLINE: JANUARY 9



Seasons Greetings



NEW SUPERINTENDENTS FOR YELLOWSTONE AND GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARKS

DENVER – New superintendents were named today to two of the nation's most well-known National Parks. Suzanne Lewis, a twenty-two year veteran of the NPS, will manage Yellowstone National Park, and Steve Martin, a twenty-six year NPS veteran will manage Grand Teton National Park and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway according to Karen Wade, Intermountain Regional Director. Lewis and Martin will assume their new responsibilities effective early February, 2002.

"It is an honor to be selected for this position, especially in conjunction with the selection of the superintendent for Grand Teton National Park and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway," said Lewis. "Seldom does a new superintendent have the opportunity to begin a new and challenging assignment along side that of another new superintendent. I am pleased to have the opportunity to form a partnership with Steve Martin that will assist both of these park units in working with local constituencies to meet the mission of the National Park Service," she said.

Ms. Lewis earned her B.A. (Magna Cum Laude) in American History, in 1978 from the University of West Florida. During her Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program, Lewis completed assignments with the Department of Interior Secretary's Special Assistant for Alaska, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Walt Disney World Corporation.



Suzanne Lewis

Throughout her NPS career, Lewis has received numerous awards including the National Parks and Conservation Association Park Manager of the Year for Partnerships in 1994. She was also awarded the Woman of Distinction Award, Girl Scout Councils of America in 1997.

Lewis enjoys traveling and completed a tour of southern Africa in 1996, visiting six national parks in Botswana and Zimbabwe, including whitewater rafting the Zambezi River. Other interests include producing pottery, both hand-build and wheel thrown, and writing and editing. She has been married to Michael Hurrell since 1983.

Suzanne Lewis is currently the superintendent at Glacier National Park where she manages over 1,013,000 acres, a staff of approximately 525 during the height of the summer season, and an annual operating budget of over \$11 million. She began her NPS career as a seasonal park ranger in 1978 at Gulf Islands National Seashore. During her 11-year tenure at Gulf Islands National Seashore, she served in a variety of positions including park technician, park historian, supervisory park ranger and

management assistant to the superintendent. Chosen in 1988 for an international assignment to the Republic of Haiti, she assisted the United Nation's efforts to preserve, protect and educate Haitians in the preservation of cultural resources. In 1989, Lewis was appointed acting superintendent for Christiansted National Historic Site and Buck Island Reef National Monument in the U.S. Virgin Islands. She was selected in 1990 as the first superintendent for the newly created Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve – a 46,000 acre national park in Jacksonville, Florida. Lewis served as the superintendent for the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area in Atlanta, Georgia, from 1997 to April 2000, where she managed one of the busiest national recreation areas in the United States, with more than 3.5 million visitors annually.



Steve Martin

"I am honored to have been selected for the superintendency at Grand Teton National Park. Alaska and the Teton-Yellowstone region are the two areas that our family considers home," said Martin. "Teton's opportunities are remarkable with its wonderful resources, community support and the highly professional park staff. I appreciate Secretary Norton's emphasis on conservation through collaboration, communication and consultation, and look forward to working with NPS Director Fran Mainella, Regional Director Karen Wade, Yellowstone Superintendent Suzanne Lewis, all of the Grand Teton park staff, land managers and communities in the Greater Yellowstone ecosystem in managing and protecting our natural and cultural resources," he said.

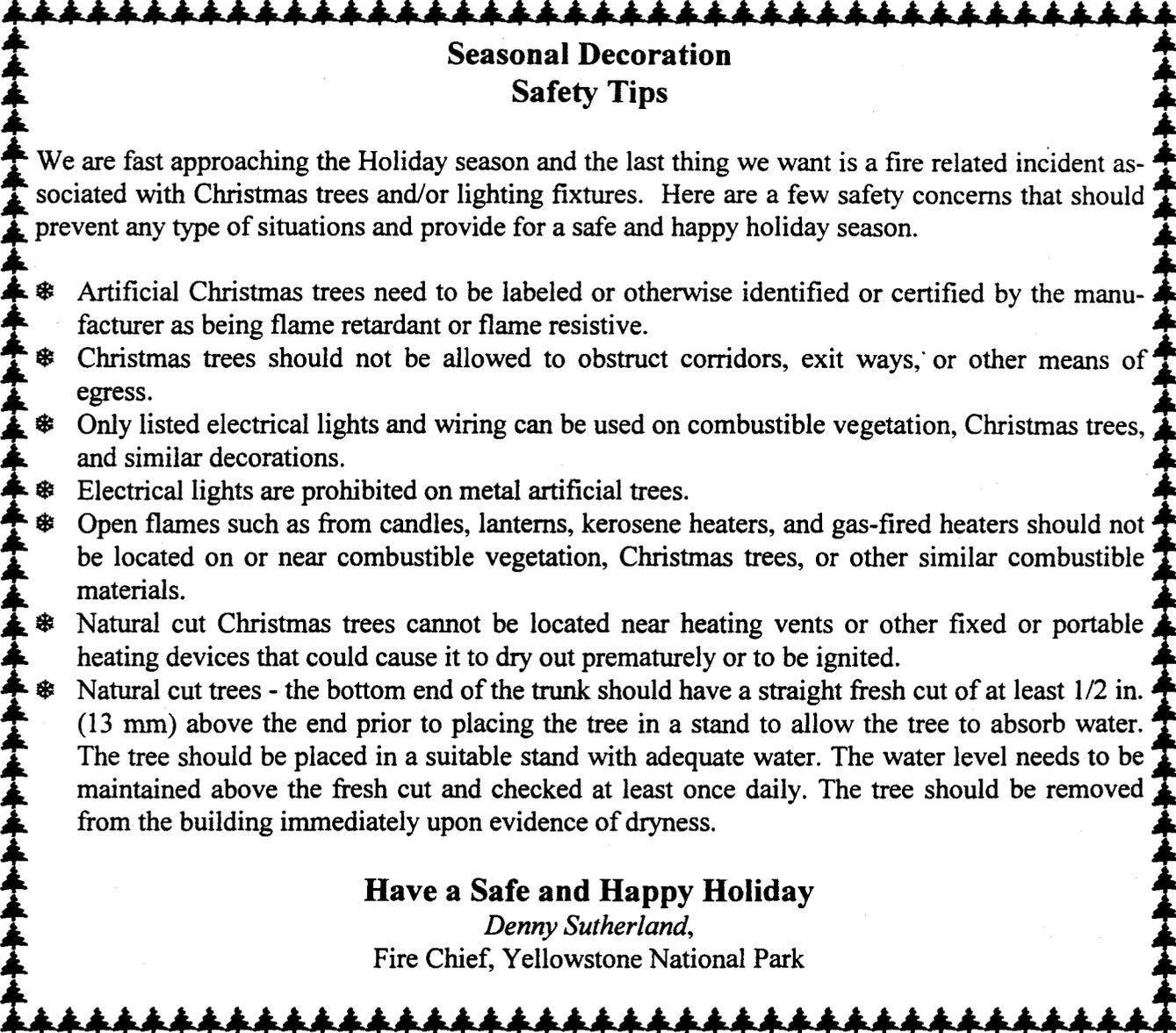
Steve Martin is currently superintendent of Denali National Park and Preserve where he is responsible for all aspects of the management of the 6.2 million-acre park. The park has 100 permanent and 200 seasonal employees and an average annual budget of about \$15 million.

Prior to assuming the superintendency at Denali, Martin was superintendent of Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, an 8.2 million-acre park encompassing part of the Brooks Range of northern Alaska. He moved to Alaska from Yellowstone National Park where he was chief of concessions. Prior to that assignment, Martin was chief of resource management and visitor protection at Voyageurs National Park in northern Minnesota. Before Voyageurs he was the north district ranger and Old Faithful district ranger at Yellowstone. Martin began his career as park ranger at Grand Canyon National Park in 1975 where he supervised the Colorado River field operation.

Martin earned his B.S. in Natural Resource Management from the University of Arizona in 1975. He has received many awards for his supervisory and management accomplishments, most recently the Department of Interior Meritorious Service Award.

Martin's wife, Dr. Cyd Martin, is also a career employee with the National Park Service. She is the lead anthropologist at Gates of the Arctic National Park and Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve, managing cultural resources for both areas. Their daughter Kate, is an optical physicist in Portland, Oregon and their twin sons, Case and Jesse, are students and hockey players at St. Olaf College in Minnesota. The Martins' enjoy cross-country and downhill skiing, hiking, climbing, horseback riding, whitewater rafting and fly fishing. Their other interests include travel, art, music and cooking.

The Yellowstone News is a Yellowstone employee newsletter, published monthly by the Public Affairs Office. To submit articles, notices of events, classified ads, or announcements please email Yell_public_affairs@nps.gov, call 344-2013, or send via interdepartmental mail or fax to 344-2014. Please include your name and phone number with all submissions.



Seasonal Decoration Safety Tips

We are fast approaching the Holiday season and the last thing we want is a fire related incident associated with Christmas trees and/or lighting fixtures. Here are a few safety concerns that should prevent any type of situations and provide for a safe and happy holiday season.

- * Artificial Christmas trees need to be labeled or otherwise identified or certified by the manufacturer as being flame retardant or flame resistive.
- * Christmas trees should not be allowed to obstruct corridors, exit ways, or other means of egress.
- * Only listed electrical lights and wiring can be used on combustible vegetation, Christmas trees, and similar decorations.
- * Electrical lights are prohibited on metal artificial trees.
- * Open flames such as from candles, lanterns, kerosene heaters, and gas-fired heaters should not be located on or near combustible vegetation, Christmas trees, or other similar combustible materials.
- * Natural cut Christmas trees cannot be located near heating vents or other fixed or portable heating devices that could cause it to dry out prematurely or to be ignited.
- * Natural cut trees - the bottom end of the trunk should have a straight fresh cut of at least 1/2 in. (13 mm) above the end prior to placing the tree in a stand to allow the tree to absorb water. The tree should be placed in a suitable stand with adequate water. The water level needs to be maintained above the fresh cut and checked at least once daily. The tree should be removed from the building immediately upon evidence of dryness.

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday

Denny Sutherland,

Fire Chief, Yellowstone National Park

WINTER ROAD REMINDERS

Wheeled Vehicles

The only park road that remains open to wheeled vehicles through the winter is the road from Gardiner, Montana, at the North Entrance to Silver Gate & Cooke City, Montana, near the Northeast Entrance.

Groomed Roads Open to the Public

December 17, 2001 – Park is open to public oversnow vehicles from Mammoth to Madison to West Entrance; from Old Faithful to West Thumb; from South to Lake to East Entrance, and from Canyon to Norris. (subject to weather and road conditions)

Holiday Open House Schedule

Business Management/Interpretation/Planning Office—Santa suggests stopping by our section (3rd floor Administration building) to sample savory, spicy, and sweet snacks, and simmering cider. Such sensational, sumptuous samplings start sometime after 3:30 p.m. on December 17th. See 'ya soon!



Superintendent's/Public Affairs/Safety Office-Wednesday, December 19, 3:00 p.m. in the Superintendent's Conference Room. Hors D'oeuvres, Sweet Treats & Hot Cider will be served

Carpenter/Paint Shop Christmas Party-Wednesday, December 19, 3:30 p.m.. Our famous Deep fried turkeys, wild sausage and many more goodies. Music and fun times.

Hamilton Stores Open House-Thursday, December 20, 3:00-5:00 p.m. Come join us with lots of good food and friendship!

Courier Run Schedule

Dates for the courier vary due to the holidays, and staffing levels.

Tuesday, December 18th

Thursday, December 20th

Friday, December 21st (This will be the "Santa Run") This will be the last run before Christmas.

Wednesday, December 26th

Friday, December 28th

Friday, January 4th *** We are only going to do one run the week of New Years.

Tuesday, January 8th

Friday, January 11th.

Thereafter courier runs will typically be Tuesday and Fridays except on weeks that have Holidays, i.e. Martin Luther King, President's Day. On those weeks, the Courier will run on Wednesday and Friday.

If you have questions regarding courier operations, please contact Russ Miller or Keith Young at the Mammoth Ranger Station. Russ does the scheduling, but Keith will be coordinating Courier operations.

IT'S A GIRL & A BOY!

Kyndra Rose (2 lb 1oz) and Colter William (4 lb) Long made their appearance via c-section, Friday, November 16, at 5:30 p.m. Kyndra's color was good and they both are stable. Mother Holly is doing well also. The family will be in the Great Falls hospital for a time yet but hope to be all home for Christmas.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Use or Lose Vacation Deadline
(Last Reminder!)

All Use or Lose Annual Leave needs to be used by Saturday, January 12, 2002.

Leave Share Program

We currently have two employees that will be eligible for the leave share program. Susan Kraft is now eligible and Holly Long will be eligible for pay period 2 (December 30). Please keep them in mind if you have any days you won't be able to use by the deadline. What a great Holiday opportunity!

Holiday Greetings from Karen Wade

This holiday season has special meaning for all of us. The tragic events of September 11 have given a renewed sense of importance to the time we spend with family and friends and to the values that the holidays represent. It is my hope that the holidays will find you all in the presence of those you care most deeply about.

The holidays are a time when I reflect on the remarkable job all of you do who work for the National Park Service. I have always been proud to be part of this organization, but this year I feel that pride in especially strong measure. We had people near ground zero who responded to terror with strength and courage. We had people working around the clock following the attacks to provide help and information to those both inside and outside the service. Our law enforcement rangers and park police are making deep personal sacrifices to provide security for places both inside and outside the park system that are considered especially vulnerable and are often far from home and family. In the parks, everyone is working especially hard to meet the additional responsibilities of safety and security imposed by recent events while ensuring the parks are available as a source of comfort and inspiration to visitors. And in offices, people are working hard to provide the support and help parks need to keep their complex operations moving.

At a time when many are reflecting on the underlying values that keep and sustain us, the units of the National Park system are important sources of solace, education and inspiration. They are windows into our national soul, deep pools reflecting our struggles as a nation to live up to our great ideals.

This is the cherished gift that each of you, the women and men of the National Park Service, give to the American people, to the world, and to the future -- a gift of insight, of opportunity, of renewal, of introspection, of understanding. You do this with a confidence, sense of dignity, and passion that should give each of you great pride, and a feeling of hope throughout this holiday season. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve with you and I wish all of you and your families good health and happiness in the New Year.

**MAJOR CHANGES THIS OPEN SEASON,
PLEASE READ THIS ANNOUNCEMENT CAREFULLY**

Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Open Season begins November 15, 2001, and continues through January 31, 2002. Employees covered by Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) or the Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS) may enroll in TSP or change their contributions. Open Season literature is available on the internet at www.tsp.gov; additional information as well as a TSP-1 form will be sent to all employees in the next two days.

TSP-1 has been revised effective 5/2001. Older TSP-1s CANNOT be used. The TSP-1 is used to start, stop, or change your contributions. With the exception of new employees enrolling for the first time, the TSP-1 can only be used during Open Seasons. Completed TSP-1s must be submitted to the Personnel Office. PLEASE NOTE THAT EFFECTIVE JANUARY OF 2002, CONTRIBUTION LIMITS HAVE BEEN RAISED. FERS employees may now contribute up to 12% and CSRS employees can contribute up to 7% of their salaries. Additionally, current employees may change their contributions using Employee Express (912) 757-3080. If you cannot locate your PIN number, a new number can be obtained by calling this same phone number.

TSP-50 is a new form. It is used to allocate your **future** payroll contributions amongst the five TSP funds. It is also used to redistribute **past** allocations amongst the five TSP funds. Redistribution of **past** allocations is known as an Interfund Transfer. The TSP-50 can be completed at any time and must be completed if you are a new enrollee. New enrollees will receive a letter from the Thrift Savings Plan Office detailing what they must do in order to allocate their funds amongst the five funds which are now available. If funds are not allocated, they will be placed in the G Fund. Interfund transfers are limited to one per month. TSP-50s need to be completed by either calling the Thriftline (504) 255-8777 or by using the TSP Account Access at (www.tsp.gov). Either of these methods will require use of your TSP PIN Number. If you cannot locate your TSP PIN, call the Thriftline at (504) 255-8777 to be issued a new PIN number. Interfund transfers can only be processed using one of the methods indicated above; there are no hard copies of TSP-50.

TSP-1s may be submitted any time after November 15, 2001, and before January 31, 2002.

Effective dates are:

Received in the Personnel Office

Effective Date

November 15, 2001 through January 12, 2002

January 13, 2002

January 13 through January 26, 2002

January 27, 2002

January 27 through January 31, 2002

February 10, 2002

If you have any questions regarding this TSP Open Season, please call me at 344-2041.

SAFETY CORNER

BY WILLIE BURKHARDT

Do it safe, all the time, every time.

The Safety Advisory Council has decided to make this slogan our guide for the next year. Do it Safe, all the time, every time. This doesn't mean just when it's convenient or doesn't take as much time. This means every time, all the time.

We are asking every employee to make a commitment to be safe in everything they do. It will take more time, thought, and effort. It will not be easy. It will take a conscious effort on the part of every one of us. We do not want to see anyone hurt in the future. Review your actions, plans, and activities. Identify the hazards, and do it safe all the time, every time. Take personal responsibility for your actions and those of others around you. If you see an unsafe act, unsafe conditions, or something that doesn't seem right take the time to correct the situation. If you don't know how to alleviate the hazard, ask for help. If you see a fellow employee doing something that looks unsafe, ask them about it. **Stop unsafe work – Do it safe, all the time, every time.**

Another aspect of this initiative involves the sharing of near misses and the correction of their cause. Do not be reluctant to share a near miss. The communication of your experience will help others to avoid a possible accident. Look past the view of exposing your mistake and take pride in saving another person from harm. Correct the cause of your near miss. If you almost trip over something on the floor, take the time to clear the pathway. If you notice a problem with a vehicle, have it repaired. Don't just be content with your accident avoidance; prevent the same situation from happening to others. Safety is everyone's responsibility. If you can right the situation, Do It. If you can't, notify the responsible party, and check on it later to see if it's corrected.

Remember-

Do it safe, all the time, every time.

A major cause of accidents for Yellowstone are the low risk, high frequency things we do every day-like walking, driving, lifting, and using tools and equipment. The causes of these accidents are most notably: inattention, improper use of body or equipment, or taking an unsafe position. Many of these accidents can be avoided by taking your time, being aware of your surroundings, recognizing hazards, reviewing proper uses of your body and equipment, and positioning yourself safely. Also, using proper personal protective equipment will help prevent accidents from happening. Simple items like safety glasses, gloves, and proper clothing can protect you from injuries, but only if you have these things available and use them properly when they are needed. Do not put yourself in harms way unprotected.

All accidents are preventable, take the time to recognize hazards and avoid them. If you need help dealing with hazards, consult your coworkers, your supervisor, or the Safety Office. There are a wealth of resources available to help you do your job safely and prevent accidents, but you need to actively participate, be attentive, and work at safety.

Let's all make a commitment to:

Do it safe, all the time, every time.

From the Safety Office during this holiday season-

GIVE THE GIFT OF SAFETY

- ⇒ Life is a precious gift: never drink and drive.
- ⇒ Provide nonalcoholic drinks at your gatherings for designated drivers and other guests.
- ⇒ Select child-safe toys: nontoxic, durable, and free of small parts or rough or sharp edges.

- ⇒ Consider giving gifts of safety such as a bicycle helmet, smoke detector, safety whistle, or keyboard wrist support.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Everyone is invited to attend the 2nd annual Community Christmas Dinner. It is going to be on Friday, December 21 at 5:30 p.m. at the Gardiner School Multi-use room. If you want to help by donating your time, skills, food or be in the talent show, just give us a call at 406-848-7003 or 406-848-7865.

NEED TRACTION?



Don't forget to pick up your sandbags at the North Entrance Shopping Center, Sinclair, or Tire Iron. They're perfect for your trucks or trunks. Increase your traction on slippery roads and use the sand for emergency traction. Approx. 50 lbs. for \$2.50

Thanks!!! From the Boy Scouts of Mammoth-Gardiner (especially the employees of The North Entrance Shopping Center, Sinclair, Tire Iron and Welch Brogan.)

PEN PAL OPPORTUNITY

The Public Affairs Office has a letter from a 17 year of boy in Spain who is looking for a pen pal in Yellowstone. His name is Andoni Etxeberria. If anyone is interested in corresponding with this young man, please contact Diane at (307) 344-2013. I can get you a copy of his letter which includes his address and some general information.

PEER AWARD RECIPIENTS

Peer Awards.

Fred Bolenske and the Canyon Maintenance Crew
Lane Baker

PERSONNEL NEWS

Welcome to Yellowstone:

David Barland-Liles Park Ranger (Protection)
From Redwood NP West Entrance

Term Appointment:

Sean Cahill Museum Tech
Mammoth

Promotions:

Dan Warthin Prescribed Fire Specialist
Mammoth

Tim Reid Supervisory Park Ranger
North District

Permanent Appointments:

Matthew Regnier Landscape Architect
Mammoth

Joe Regula Landscape Architect
Mammoth

Robert Stermitz Landscape Architect
Mammoth

Robin Gregory Landscape Architect
Mammoth

Dan Rhodes Landscape Architect
Mammoth

Greg McGinnis Utility Systems Operator
Grant Village

Dale Reinhart Landscape Architect
Mammoth

Beth Hoppe Public Safety Dispatcher
Mammoth

Michael Angermeier Landscape Architect
Mammoth

Bernie Adams Public Safety Dispatcher
Mammoth

Lynn Chan Landscape Architect
Mammoth

Rachael Danielkiewicz Public Safety Dispatcher
Mammoth

FOR SALE

Ford pickup F-150 1995 XLT 302 V-8 extended cab, short bed 4-wheel drive, manual hubs, color Tucson Bronze/Cream. 89,000 miles excellent condition, excellent running. Tow package, off road package, 5 speed standard, rear window slider, power locks/windows/mirrors, block heater. With Glasstite topper (cream color) with window sliders. Both well cared for. Truck - with topper \$9500; without topper \$9000; topper alone \$500. Call Bundy @ 307-344-2602 or 406-838-2300 or email.

Cross country skis. Karhu XCD-GTs (now called Serpens), used only one season, 195, double camber, full metal edge, waxless, with SNS binding. Great backcountry skis! \$135. Women's boots to fit bindings available in size 8-8 1/2. Call 848-7085 evenings.

I've upgraded to a new PC. Here's a great deal on my previous computer system. 300 meg K6-2 processor 128 meg memory, 6-2 gig hard drive, 56 K V 90 modem, 48x CD ROM, Win 98 OS and some older programs (MS Works, Encarta...) keyboard, mouse, speakers. Everything you need EXCEPT monitor. Works fine. Asking \$125. Call Mike Cretella at 406-848-7263.

HOME FOR SALE We're building soon and need to sell our home. It is located 4.5 miles north of Gardiner on Papesh Road. One acre of land with a 1995 modular home (approximately 1600-sq.ft.) on foundation with vaulted ceiling, 3-bedrooms, 2 baths and, a shed for additional storage. It has trees and a nice lawn with live water in the summer. A great view of Electric Peak! Come check it out, but please call first. (406) 848-7016.

TV WANTED

Do you have a spiffy color television, for some reason or another, you could let go of? Hardworking residents of one of our seasonal housing units would put it to good communal use. Call 307-344-2229.

ROOMMATE NEEDED

Looking for mature, non-smoking, female roommate to share 2-bedroom, 1-bath house in Gardiner. Huge fenced-in yard so pets may be an option. Either way, you must like animals! Available first part of December. 1/2 rent is \$200/month (includes water) plus 1/2 utilities. Call Diane at 406-223-1833, leave a message if no answer.

SHARED HOUSING AVAILABLE-- Perfect for Commuter or Winter Researcher

I'm a year-round park employee with a spare bedroom and private bath. Room is furnished, available now, in large mobile home located four miles from Gardiner out Stephens Creek Road. House has washer/dryer, satellite TV, great view of Electric Peak and a dog and cat. Please no smoking, drugs, or excessive alcohol. There is not space for storage or extra furniture. Tired of winter driving and the bus schedule? Lets talk...call Pam at 307-344-2024 or 406-848-2599.

AMERICAN FLAG PINS AND NATIONAL PARK CALENDARS

The park has received the flag pins and 2002 national park calendars. You may pick yours up at the Superintendent's Office and for those of you in the Interior, we will be sending out a number of calendars to you at your location in the coming weeks.

Please call Kerrie or Jan to let us know how many pins you'd like for your area. Everyone just gets one for now. I have plenty of extras, but want to make sure everyone gets one before we start giving anyone more than that. (Calendars are on order and will be in soon!)

LOST & FOUND

Found:

A part of a dangle earring was found in front of the Admin building. It has a black bead with a silver arrowhead/triangle below it. It will be at VSO if you would like to claim it.

An analog Timex watch with a metal silver band was found in the snowmobile parking area behind the Garage in Mammoth. It is in VSO.

A maroon, "Outback" brand, oilskin/duster, women's coat has been left at the fire cache. We will turn it in to Lost and Found in a week. Call us at 307-344-2181 or 307-344-2194

Lost:

1 thermos and 1 water bottle on the road between Canyon and Mammoth. Lost at about 9:00 p.m. Sunday.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who attended the Yellowstone Association Book Sale! We appreciate your patronage and enjoy seeing you at this busy time of year!

Congratulations to this year's raffle winners:

Jim Alvis won the Yellowstone Association Institute Briefcase

Mary Hektner won the coffee table book

We wish you all a healthy and happy holiday season and thank you again for supporting your park!

VIDEO RENTALS

The Yellowstone Employee Winter Recreation Program, in partnership with Your Town Video, is offering a Video Rental Program at Mammoth and Old Faithful to all park employees.

On December 13, an excellent selection of videos will be available for you to rent from either location. TV's and VCR's will also be available to rent.

Mammoth AMFAC Personnel Office located in the Juniper Dorm. Regular Hours are 8:00-5:00, 7 days a week. Call 307-344-5396 for extended hours.

Old Faithful AMFAC Personnel Office located in the Larkspur Dorm. Regular Hours are 8:00-5:00, 7 days a week. Call 307-545-4677 for extended hours.

We look forward to this Video Rental Program being a great service to all park employees. If you have any questions or want information on other services provided by Your Town Video, contact Ross Richardson at 406-848-7223. For information on other Winter Recreation programs, contact Zach Park at 307-344-5224.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS EVE HOLIDAY

All NPS Offices will be closed on Monday, December 24.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

Due to renovations in the Mammoth Chapel the Christmas Eve Candles Lighting Service will be held in the Mammoth Rec. Hall on Monday, December 24 at 7:30 p.m.

REGULAR WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Regular Gardiner/Mammoth worship services will be as follows: Sunday worship in the Mammoth Chapel will be held at 9:00 a.m. Gardiner Community Church will have Sunday School at 10:15 a.m. followed by worship service at 11:15 a.m.

MAMMOTH CLINIC WINTER HOURS

The Mammoth Clinic is now open 5 days a week. The clinic hours are 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday. To make an appointment, please call the clinic at 344-7965.

The clinic will be open until noon on Christmas Eve, closed on Christmas Day. Returning to regular hours on Wednesday, December 26.

YELLOWSTONE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Effective October 1, 2001, Yellowstone Federal Credit Union hours will be:

9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday

9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

The Yellowstone Federal Credit Union will be closed on Christmas Day in observance of the holiday season.

YFCU offers free checking with no minimum balance requirement.

Members should watch their September statement for information on YFCU's new VISA ATM/Check card.

YFCU also has a special checks program that will aid victims in the aftermath of the tragic terrorist attacks in New York, Washington DC, and Pennsylvania. When members order either the FLAG or FIREFIGHTERS check series from the credit union, the purchase will trigger a \$5.00 donation to support programs designed to help affected areas recover from the September attacks. This program will remain in effect for the remainder of 2001. For more information, contact Martha Powell at (307) 344-7974 or stop by the Credit Union office.

VETERINARIAN VISIT

Dr. James Murray, DVM, of Livingston, will be in Gardiner on the following Fridays: December 28, January 11 & 18. Call (406) 222-3700 if you would like to schedule a home visit appointment. Thank you!

Yellowstone Christmas Bird Count Dec. 16, 2001

The **Yellowstone Christmas Bird Count** will be conducted **Sunday Dec.16, 2001**, in the Mammoth /Gardiner area. For people not familiar with the Christmas Bird Count, it is an international method of counting birds, learning something about birds from other people, and having fun with fellow birders during the Christmas holiday season.

Whether you are a beginning birdwatcher, a moderately experienced birder, or an advanced observer, the Christmas Bird Count is still a lot of fun. If you have never participated you should give it a try! For those that have participated before we hope to see you again!

Meet at the **Best Western
Gardiner, Montana
Dec. 16, 2001
7:15 am**

Bring warm clothes, snacks, and drinks for the day. All participants will be invited to McEneaney's for lunch.

For more detailed information please contact:

**Terry McEneaney H (406)848-7942
O (307)344-2222**

Hope to see you there on Dec. 16th!



Facts on FLU SHOTS

How much do you really know about the flu?
Don't fall for the myths.

.....

"The shot can give you the flu."

Flu vaccines are made from *killed* influenza viruses. These cannot give you the flu.

"Even if I get a flu shot, I can still get the flu."

This can happen, but the flu shot usually protects most people. Other viruses also circulate during the flu season and can cause illnesses that feel like the flu. The flu shot will not protect you against those other viruses.

"The vaccine isn't 100% effective, so I'm better off getting the flu."

No vaccine is 100% effective. However, if you get a flu shot but still get the flu, you are likely to be far less sick than you would have been without the protection.

"The side effects are worse than the flu."

The worst side effect you're likely to get is a sore arm. The risk of injury or death from a rare allergic reaction is *far* less than the risk of severe complications from influenza.

"Not everyone can take the flu shot."

People who are allergic to eggs (used in making the vaccine); currently have a severe, acute illness; or have had a severe reaction to the flu vaccine in the past, might not be able to get this protection.

"Only the very old and sick need the flu shot."

Even if you're in good health, if you are 65 years old or older, have a chronic (on-going) or long-term health condition, or are in the 2nd or 3rd trimester of pregnancy, you have a greater risk of complications if you get the flu. Even if you aren't at high risk of complications, you can get a flu shot to prevent the flu and to protect everyone you live with and contact.

"I don't have to get the flu shot by December."

The flu shot can be given before or during the flu season. You should let those who need the protection most have the first shots—those 65 years old or older, with chronic (on-going) or long-term health conditions, and health care workers. It's best not to delay, but if you do, don't give up!

.....



CDC
Immunization



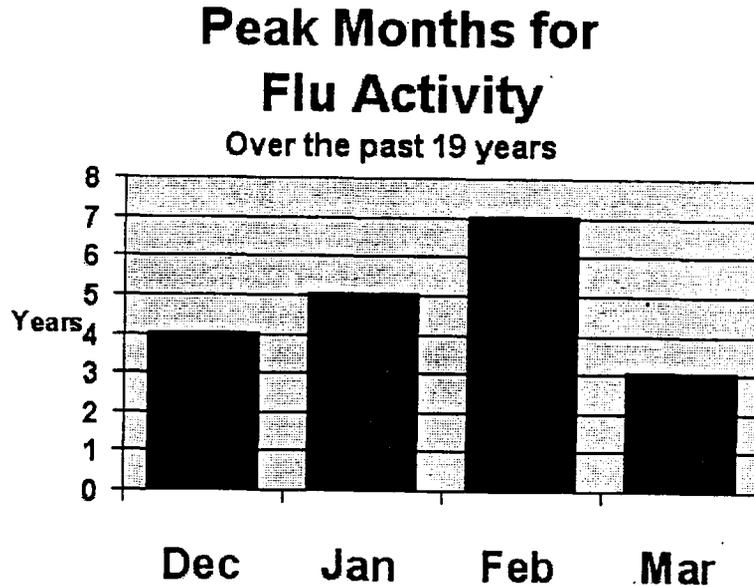
Find the Time!

SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE™

INFLUENZA

IT ISN'T TOO LATE TO GET A FLU SHOT

In the United States flu season can range from November through April. The following shows Peak Activity:



HOW CAN YOU TELL IF IT IS FLU OR A COLD

Symptoms	Cold	Flu
Fever	rare in adults and older children, but can be as high as 102E F in infants and small children	usually 102° F, but can go up to 104° F and usually lasts 3 to 4 days
Headache	rare	sudden onset and can be severe
Muscle aches	mild	usual, and often severe
Tiredness and Weakness	mild	can last two or more weeks
Extreme exhaustion	never	sudden onset and can be severe
Runny nose	often	sometimes
Sneezing	often	sometimes
Sore throat	often	sometimes
Cough	mild hacking cough	usual, and can become severe

Flu Vaccine is still available. Call MAMMOTH CLINIC 344-7965

December News

November 30, 2001

School News

Holiday Program: December 20 is the date to circle on your calendar! The play will begin at 7:00 p.m. This year's play is based on Chris Van Allsburg's *Polar Express*, and has been adapted for our school by the students. We will have a costume and prop list to you early next week. Thanks in advance for all of the help given by you, the parents!

Ski/Skate Program: A reminder to all families that after winter break we will begin the PTO sponsored cross-country skiing and ice-skating programs. Be sure to have your child's equipment for both sports by then. If you have any questions concerning equipment, please call Ms. Loren. A permission and information slip will be coming home soon for these activities.

Classroom Notes

Ms. Marty's Class: *The kindergartners will be looking forward to the holidays. We will be writing a letter to Santa. We will be working on Christmas projects and fitting in our "work," too! During the month of December we will work on the letters Dd, Mm, and Ss. *In first grade we will be finishing up our second reading anthology book and starting our third book. In math we will continue adding and subtracting numbers to 10. The first graders will be working on math story problems. We will be doing some holiday activities, too!

Mrs. Bueter: *Kindergartners, first and second graders have completed their health classes for this year. We had fun learning about and then tasting the different food groups, studying oral health and how to be germ-safe. *Fifth and sixth graders will begin health classes in January. Now that snowy weather is here; be sure to wear proper clothing, including hats, gloves, and boots. Be careful on icy areas and don't forget to use a tissue!

Mr. Stringfield's Class: *Second and third graders are beginning their December Kids' Newspaper. Also, for the month of December, they will set and try to meet personal reading goals. *First and second graders are beginning a five senses unit in science. We will learn how scientist rely on their senses and are also fooled by them. We will begin

Good-bye to Rachel de Vries. Tuesday, Dec. 4, is her last day with us. It has been fun getting to know her and learning from her. So long, Rachel, and we wish you all the best in your teaching career.

The PTO Cookie Exchange will be held on December 5 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. There will be crafts for children as well as a chance to exchange your favorite holiday recipes.

Thanks to the ice-skating committee for starting up our ice rink. Many hours of hard work will bring it to skating condition for our January sports.

learning beginning world geography and learn about some international customs and celebrations.

Mrs. Kisthart: Third and fourth graders are doing magic tricks in science! All the experiments are hands on and add a whole new way for the kids to discover and understand the world around them. We're using the "Adventures in Science" series that covers a wide subject range from dinosaurs and space to saving our earth. *Fourth grade parents please have your child practice and study their time tables as we are beginning to do division in math. Third graders are doing a great job of subtracting 3 digit numbers and subtracting across zeros. *Fourth graders are finishing up their study of the New England Region and will begin a diorama project to culminate that study. Third graders continue to study communities and are finishing up their suburb project. Parents, you may want to stop in to see them in case you don't want you child bringing them home. (They are rather large and cumbersome.)

Mrs. Young's Music: The band is practicing madly for our holiday concert, the kids are all learning their songs and dances, the recorders are tooting away on some special music... We're putting it all together for December 20!



December 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5 PTO Cookie Exchange, 6:30—8:00 p.m. 6:30—8:00	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Holiday Program 7:00 p.m.	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
————— Winter Break —————						
30	31					

Schedule of Events

- **Dec. 5**— The Annual PTO Cookie Exchange will be held at the Yellowstone Park School gym from 6:30—to 8:00 p.m. Bring your favorite recipes, cookies, and a container to take exchanged cookies home to enjoy!
- **Dec. 20**— At 7:00 p.m., our students will be presenting the play *The Polar Express*. Everyone is welcome to attend. The more, the merrier!
- **Dec. 24—Jan. 4** - Winter Break, no school. School resumes on January 7. Have a nice vacation!
- **Jan. 10**—Beginning of PTO cross-country ski program, and continuing on the next three Thursdays.
- **Jan. 11**—Beginning of PTO ice-skating program, and continuing on

December 2001

Gardiner Public School Calendar

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

							<p>1 Speech & Drama @ Twin Bridges, Lv:5: 30am, Rr:TBA 11:00am 5th & 6th Grade BBB @ Monforton, Lv:8: 00am, Rr:4:30 12:15pm Jr.Hi BBB @ Monforton, Lv:8: 00am, Rr:4:30pm</p>																																																																																																
2	<p>3 H.S. Girls VB practice begins</p>	<p>4 Jr.Hi BBB @ Big Timber, Lv:1: 00pm, Rr:9:15pm MID OF 2ND QUARTER</p>	5	<p>6 4:00pm 5th & 6th Grade BBB w/St. Mary's - HOME 5:30pm Jr.Hi BBB w/St. Mary's - HOME</p>	<p>7 SKIP 2ND HOUR 4:30pm JV BBB @ MCHS w/Victor, Lv:1:15pm, Rr: 12:30am 7:30pm Varsity BBB @ MCHS w/ Victor, Lv:1: 15pm, Rr:12:30am</p>	<p>8 Speech & Drama @ White Sulphur Springs - TBA 1:00pm JV BBB @ MCHS w/Whitehall, Lv:9:45am, Rr:10: 00pm 5:30pm Varsity BBB @ MCHS w/ Whitehall, Lv:9: 45am, Rr:10pm</p>																																																																																																	
9	<p>10 4:00pm & 5:30 Jr. Hi BBB @ Livingston #1 - TBA</p>	11	<p>12 7:00pm School Board Meeting</p>	<p>13 4:00pm & 5:15 5th & 6th Gr. & Jr.Hi (B-team)w/Pine Creek HOME</p>	<p>14 4:00pm H.S. Girls VB w/Townsend (C,B,A) - HOME</p>	<p>15 Speech & Drama @ Big Timber - TBA 5th & 6th Grade BBB Round Robin @ WSS H.S. Girls VB Shields Tournament 11:00am & 12:30 Jr. Hi BBB w/Shields Valley - HOME 4:15, 6:00 & 7:30 H BBB w/MCHS - HOME</p>																																																																																																	
16	17	<p>18 4:00pm & 5:30 Jr. Hi BBB w/Big Timber - HOME</p>	<p>19 CHRISTMAS MUSICAL PROGRAM</p>	20	<p>21 4:30pm H.S. Girls VB @ Twin Bridges 5:00pm & 6:30 H. S. BBB @ Bridger</p>	22																																																																																																	
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